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NRO SATELLITE SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED ABOARD DELTA IV HEAVY

A National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) payload was successfully launched aboard a United Launch Alliance Delta IV Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle (EELV) from Space Launch Complex 37, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS), Florida, at 5:58 p.m., EST, on November 21, 2010.

This is the second in a series of six launches that will take place during the 50th anniversary of the NRO. This mission is the fourth EELV Delta IV Heavy Launch Vehicle mission to launch from CCAFS; the 14th Delta IV mission, and the second NRO mission to launch from United Launch Alliance's Space Launch Complex 37.

This evening's launch was dedicated to the memory of Jim Arnold, the former Director of Advanced Systems & Technology, who died in June 2010. Painted on the main booster of the Delta IV Heavy lift rocket was, "In memory of Jim Arnold. With vision, innovation, and dedication anything is possible."

The NRO is a joint Department of Defense-Intelligence Community organization responsible for developing, launching, and operating America's signals, imagery, and communications satellites to meet the needs of our nation.

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